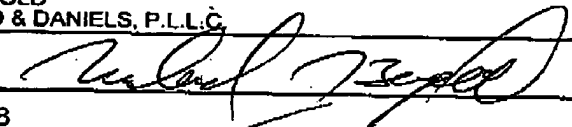
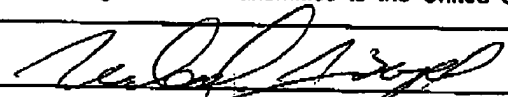


Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Approved for use through 9/30/00. OMB 0651-0031  
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <h1 style="text-align: center;">TRANSMITTAL FORM</h1> <p style="text-align: center;">(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</p>   | Application Number  | 10/581,898  |
|   | Confirmation Number   | 1922  |
|   | Filing Date   | w/effective filing date of November 30, 2004  |
|   | First Named Inventor  | Gerd HEELS  |
|   | Group Art Unit  | 3765  |
|   | Examiner Name   | Alissa L. HEY   |
| Total No. of Pages in this Submission: 20   | Attorney Docket Number  | LORWER P45AUS   |
| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)   |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee attached<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response ..... [3]<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request (in Duplicate)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure SMT<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Part/s Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CAR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment papers (for an Application)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition (DELETED - no longer useful)<br><input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):<br>English translation of German Application No. 103 57 112.4 ... [16] |
| REMARKS   |   |   |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT  |   |   |
| Firm or Individual Name   | Michael J. BUJOLD<br>DAVIS BEGILD & DANIELS, P.L.L.C.   |   |
| Signature   |   |   |
| Date  | July 29, 2008   |   |
| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION   |   |   |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on July 29, 2008.   |   |   |
| Signature   |   |   |
|   | Date: July 29, 2008 (ifb)   |   |

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 29 2008

7/29/08

## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                      |   |  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| In re Application of | : | Gerd HEXELS  |
| Serial no.           | : | 10/581,898   |
| Confirmation No.     | : | 1922   |
| Filed                | : | with an effective filing date of November 30, 2004 |
| For                  | : | PROTECTIVE CLOTHING FOR THE LOWER                  |
|                      | : | PART OF THE LEG                                    |
| Group Art Unit       | : | 3765   |
| Examiner             | : | Alissa L. HOEY                                     |
| Docket               | : | LORWER P45AUS                                      |

The Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

|  |
|--|
| [XXX] NO FEES ARE PAYABLE WITH RESPECT TO THIS RESPONSE. |
|--|

In response to the official action mailed June 19, 2008, please enter the following before reconsideration of this application.

## REMARKS

Claim 57 is rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Von Blucher '541 while claims 37, 41-42, 45-50, 53-55, 58-61, 64 and 71 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Von Blucher '541 in view of Pacanowsky et al. '447. The Applicant acknowledges and respectfully traverses the raised anticipatory and obviousness rejections in view of the following remarks.

It is noted that Von Blucher '541 has publication date only as of April 14, 2005 but has a U.S. filing date of April 28, 2004, while the above identified application is a national stage completion of the International Application PCT/EP2004/013577 which has an international filing date of November 30, 2004. However, this PCT application also claims priority from German Application No. 103 57 112.4 filed on December 6, 2003. Enclosed is an English translation of German Application No. 103 57 112.4 and, in view of this English translation, the priority claim to that German Application is now believed to be perfected.

Upon reviewing the accompanying English translation of German Application No. 103 57 112.4, the Examiner will note that the disclosure of the above identified application